



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 159

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2013

No. 162

Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable ANGUS S. KING, Jr., a Senator from the State of Maine.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, who transforms common days into transfiguring and redemptive moments, hallowed be Your Name.

Lord, make our lawmakers great enough for these momentous times as they seek to live worthy of Your great Name. May Your precepts keep them from life's pitfalls, guiding them through the darkness to a safe haven. Cleanse the fountains of their hearts from all that defiles them so that they may be fit vessels to be used for Your glory. Let Your peace be within them as Your spirit inspires them to glorify You in their thoughts, words, and actions.

We pray in Your wonderful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter.

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, November 14, 2013.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable ANGUS S. KING, Jr., a Senator from the State of Maine, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. KING thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

FINISHING SENATE BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this great body, the Senate, has a unique ability to work very quickly when cooperation is present. That is one of the many special things about this institution. Unfortunately, cooperation in the recent months has been very lacking.

Case in point: One Senator has delayed action for more than a month on a bill to ensure the safety of custom medications mixed by pharmacies for patients with unique health needs.

The reason that 97 Senators voted to move this legislation is because 64 people died and 800 people were made very, very sick, with some of them very sick. They had strokes and other medical issues because of the irresponsibility and negligence of this company in Massachusetts.

A lawsuit was filed recently in Nevada where two young boys were allegedly impacted significantly as a result of this medication. It was really bad medication.

Unless the entire U.S. Senate bends to that one Senator's wish, the one who voted no—and the vote was 97 to 1—he will force this body to jump through hoops and work through the next several days wasting time to finish the crucial drug safety bill, but we are going to finish that bill. This bill is important for our country, and I cannot let one Senator dictate what goes on in the Senate.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following leader remarks, the Senate will be in a period of morning business for 2 hours, with Republicans controlling the first half and the majority controlling the final half.

Following morning business, we will vote on adoption of the motion to proceed to H.R. 3204, the pharmaceutical drug compounding bill. This is expected to be a voice vote—at least I hope that is, in fact, the case. If that is the case, then we will decide what will happen subsequent to that.

The Senate will recess from 1 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. to allow for an important meeting we are having. I understand that both the majority and minority are holding important meetings today.

There is no agreement that I am aware of to complete action on the compounding bill today, but hopefully we can do that.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business for 2 hours, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the leaders or their designees, with the Republicans controlling the first half.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

S8013